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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

29 November 2016

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Richmond - Killing of Black Man Probed As Possible Hate Crime

(U) Northern California authorities are investigating the slaying of a young black man as a possible hate crime amid growing concern over racially motivated attacks nationwide. The Contra Costa County Sheriff's Department arrested one white suspect and is searching for two others thought to be involved in the 12 November homicide of a 28-year-old musician. Investigators say Will Sims was robbed, beaten and shot to death outside a bar near Richmond. Authorities arrested 31-year-old Daniel Porter-Kelly and charged him with robbery and murder with a hate crime enhancement. They did not elaborate on the hate crime allegations.

SOURCE: 28 November 2016, The Los Angeles Times

(U) San Jose – Manhunt for Escaped Inmates Intensifies

(U) Authorities offered a \$20,000 reward Friday for information leading to the capture of two dangerous prisoners who broke out of a jail in San Jose on Thanksgiving eve after sawing through bars across a second-floor window. Authorities believe the men are still in the San Francisco Bay Area based on numerous sightings reported since they escaped late Wednesday night, a Santa Clara County Sheriff said. Rogelio Chavez, 33, of San Jose and Laron Campbell, 26, of Palo Alto are facing possible life sentences if convicted of the burglary, extortion, false imprisonment and other charges against them. SOURCE: 26 November 2016, The Los Angeles Times

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Ohio - Four Still Hospitalized in Ohio State Attack; Terror Link Probed

(U) Columbus – Four people remained hospitalized in fair condition today after a car and knife attack by an Ohio State University student that was being investigated as a possible terror attack, officials said. The student, Somali immigrant Abdul Razak Ali Artan, drove a car into a group of people yesterday morning at the school's Columbus campus, then stabbed several others with a butcher knife before he was shot and killed by a police officer, authorities said. US agencies are investigating the attacker's background and motives, but could not confirm he had any ties to suspected militant cells or groups. Artan, an 18-year-old immigrant from Somalia, was a legal permanent resident of the United States. SOURCE: 29 November 2016, Reuters

(U) Texas – Texas Health Officials Report First Case of Zika Spread by Local Mosquitoes

(U) Brownsville – Texas health officials yesterday reported the state's first case of Zika likely spread by local mosquitoes, making Texas the second state within the continental United States to report local transmission of the virus that has been linked to birth defects. The case involved a woman living in Cameron County near the Mexico border who is not pregnant, the Texas Department of State Health Services said. Texas said it currently has no other suspected cases of local Zika transmission, but officials there plan to step up efforts to watch for the virus. Texas is one of several US states where Aedes aegypti mosquitoes, which carry Zika, are present.

SOURCE: 29 November 2016, Reuters

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(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Germany – Spy Chief Adds To Warning of Russian Cyber Attacks

(U) Berlin – Germany's spy chief has warned that Russian hackers are pelting his country with disinformation that could undermine the democratic process, echoing concerns already voiced by his domestic intelligence counterpart. Bruno Kahl, the new head of Germany's BND foreign intelligence service, compared the campaign in an interview published today to misleading reports on social media before Donald Trump's election as United States president. Asked about political disinformation appearing in the US and Europe, Kahl said he saw a Russian link in both cases.

SOURCE: 29 November 2016, Reuters

(U) Libya – Key Al-Qa'ida Leader Killed in US-French Operation

(U) Tripoli – French aircraft struck and likely killed one of the most wanted senior al-Qa'ida operatives in southern Libya this month, marking a new level of cooperation between France and the US on targeting militants, US officials said. Mokhtar Belmokhtar has raised tens of millions of dollars for al-Qa'ida affiliates through smuggling and by taking European hostages and selling illicit goods, and is considered directly responsible for the deaths of at least three Americans, according to US officials. SOURCE: 27 November 2016, The Wall Street Journal

(U) Philippines - Bomb By US Embassy A 'Failed Act of Terrorism'

(U) Davao City – Police in the Philippines said a bomb found near the US embassy in Manila yesterday was of the same design that killed 15 people in southern Davao City in September. National police chief Ronald dela Rosa said detectives were working on the theory that Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) allied Maute militants could be behind the "attempted act of terrorism." The improvised bomb fashioned from a mortar round and a mobile phone could have been powerful enough to kill people within 100 yards, police officials said. A street sweeper found the device in a waste bin 20 yards from the embassy. A bomb disposal team carried out a controlled explosion to neutralize the device. SOURCE: 29 November 2016, Morning Star

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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